Home Minister had taken a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa on 3rd August, 1991 for an indepth discussion about the problem. In this meeting it was decided inter-alia that the State Governments would prepare action plans incorporating plans for maintenance of law and order as also developmental measures. Subsequently, a Joint Coordination Committee has been set up with representatives from all the affected States to oversee the planning and implementation of counter naxalite operations in all its aspects in a coordinated manner. The Joint Coordination Committee has held its meetings. Meetings have also been held at the officials level in this Ministry to coordinate with left wing extremist affected States. These have facilitated coordination with appreciable results.

Disbanding/Revamping of the PAC in U.P.

259 SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to disband or revamp the Uttar Pradesh Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) as reported in the 'Indian Express dated 23rd January, 1993;

(b) what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The 'Police' is a State Subject. It is for the Government of Uttar Pradesh to take a decision in the matter, taking into account deficiencies in the functioning of the UP Provincial Armed Constabulary under their charge.

Assessment of a former Diplomat regarding Article 370 of the Constitution

260. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the assessment of a Former Diplomat T. N. Kaul that Article 370 of the Constitution has been misused and misapplied and that the time has come to have a rethinking on it as it has no use now for the common man in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Government is aware of an article written by Shri T. N. Kaul in a daily newspaper, recently in which he referred to article 370 of the Constitution.

Keeping in view the special circumstances of J & K, the Constitutional relationship between the Union of India and the State of J & K was defined in article 370. From time to time, a number of provisions of the Indian Constitution and a number of other enactments on subjects in the Union and Concurrent Lists have been extended to the State with or without modifications. This article, therefore, has stood the test of time and has helped in building a progressive and dynamic relationship with the State.

Assault on Shri Madhavrao Scindia

261. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent incident at Agra Railway Station where Shri Madhavrao Scindia and his family members were assaulted by the BJP workers;

(b) if so, how many persons involved in that incident were apprehended; and